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Osmorhiza brevistylis

[Synonyms : *Myrrhis claytonii*, *Osmorhiza aristata* var. *brevistylis*, *Osmorhiza claytonii*, *Washingtonia claytoni*]

HAIRY SWEET CICELY is a hairy perennial. Native to eastern North America it has tiny white flowers.

It is also known as American sweet cicely, Bland sweet cicely, Clayton's sweet-root, Sweet jarvil, and Woolly sweet cicely.

The flowers are pollinated by bees and flies. The roots smell of liquorice (*Glycyrrhiza glabra*) when bruised – as does the stem when broken.

Hairy sweet cicely can be confused with beaver poison (*Cicuta maculata*).

Brevistylis is derived from Latin *brevi*- (short, low, small, tiny) and Greek *stylo*- (pillar, pole) components meaning ‘ with short styles (part of the female reproductive organs in the flower)’.

Medicinally, local North American Indian tribes gargled with a root tea to ease sore throats or toothache.